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GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
Office of Homeland Security
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FRANK F. NAVARRETE
DIRECTOR

July 19, 2004

After receiving constructive input from the field in response to my May 18, 2004, letter regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Arizona first responders, I am modifying this office's guidance as outlined below. The bottom line for all of us is to ensure that every first responder is appropriately protected from the potential hazardous environment presented by a terrorist attack involving weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The minimum PPE requirements described below apply to Arizona law enforcement, fire service and emergency medical service (EMS) personnel that may be deployed to WMD incidents. The description of PPE standards below has been coordinated with key representatives from the Arizona Homeland Security Technical Standards Committee. All previous guidance remains in effect, except as indicated below.

For Law Enforcement (minimum standard): those officers certified by the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AZPOST), sworn (full time and reserve), and deployable to WMD incidents.

Level C - Liquid splash resistant ensemble

- Air Purifying Respirator (APR) with canister (Both - CBRN approved)
- Suit: Tyvek F or CPF3 equivalent, chemical splash protective with integrated hood and boots.
- Over booties, chemical protective (Disposable)
- Gloves, Butyl (Outer)
- Gloves, Nitrile (Inner)
- Chemical Resistant Tape.

For Fire Service (minimum standard): those individuals certified and assigned by their respective agencies to respond to WMD incidents, typically referred to as "line" firefighters.

- CBRN and NFPA approved Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
- Structural firefighting bunker gear, which includes NFPA approved coat, pants, boots, gloves, hood, and helmet with face shield;

or

- Level C described above for Law Enforcement

For EMS (minimum standard): state and nationally certified EMS personnel, (part of a firefighting unit or private company under contract or other legal agreement with a municipality or governmental entity), deployable to WMD incidents.

- Fire Service standard above, or Level C described above for Law Enforcement.

*depending on operational procedures and plans, EMS organizations may meet state minimum standard by deploying Level C non-fitted components on a by-vehicle basis, stowing the number of sets necessary on each vehicle to protect on-duty personnel; when Level C is employed as the organization standard, fitted components should be acquired for each deployable person.

For privately contracted EMS services, PPE requirements should be coordinated with supported local governmental authorities. Federal homeland security grant funds for privately contracted EMS personnel may be used to acquire PPE for those private companies under contract with a municipality or other governmental entity. A memorandum of understanding between the EMS contractor and the supported governmental agency, addressing shared responsibilities and accountability, must be completed and retained on file with the supported governmental entity.

Training requirements, medical evaluations, and fit testing must be completed in conjunction with the issuing of equipment. For additional guidance concerning regulatory standards for fielding PPE, please contact Greg Manning, Homeland Security Training Coordinator, at (602) 231-6347 or greg.manning@azdema.gov.

As stated in previous correspondence on this issue, federal grant dollars should be applied first and foremost to PPE procurement, maintenance and training.

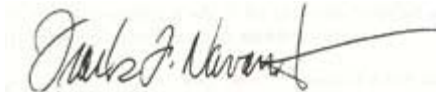
Requests for exceptions to this guidance should be submitted in writing, and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The standards outlined above address minimum standards; local jurisdictions are free to provide greater protection based on local operational plans.

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If you have questions or need additional information concerning this guidance, please contact my office at 602-542-7030 or homelandsecurity@az.gov. Additional assistance is also available through the Technical Standards Committee—for fire service/EMS issues contact Chief Tom Abbott at (480) 858-7200 or tom_abbott@tempe.gov; for law enforcement matters contact Commander T.J. Martin at (602) 534-9518 or t.j.martin@phoenix.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank F. Navarrete", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Frank F. Navarrete, Director
Office of Homeland Security

FFN/ac

cc: Heber Willis
Homeland Security Coordinating Council
Commander T.J. Martin
Chief Tom Abbott